

INCOMING TELEGRAM *Department of State*

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FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC
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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ TEGUCIGALPA 751

REF: TEGUCIGALPA 750

SUBJECT: SWAN ISLANDS

1. THERE FOLLOWS TEXT OF NOTE REGARDING SWAN ISLANDS AS
RECEIVED FROM FOREIGN MINISTRY REFERRED TO IN REFTEL:

"MR. AMBASSADOR:

A. "I HAVE THE HONOR TO REFER TO THE CONVERSATIONS WE HELD IN RECENT
WEEKS ON THE SWAN ISLANDS AND TO THE STATEMENT I MADE TO YOU ABOUT MY
TALK WITH SECRETARY OF STATE DEAN RUSK DURING MY STAY IN NEW YORK WHEN
I ATTENDED THE SESSIONS OF THE 21ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

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B. "IN ALL THESE CONVERSATIONS I MAINTAINED THAT IT WAS ADVISABLE TO
RENEW THE BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS THAT HAD BEEN INTERRUPTED IN 1963 AFTER
THE CHANGE OF GOVERNMENT IN HONDURAS, IN ORDER TO SEEK A DEFINITIVE
SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM OF THE HONDURAN SWAN ISLANDS, NOW IN THE POSSESSION
OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. I MYSELF SUGGESTED
AFOREMENTIONED METHOD WHEN I REFERRED TO THE GIBRALTAR CASE IN MY SPEECH
DURING THE GENERAL DISCUSSION AT THE 20th GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED
NATIONS IN THESE BRIEF TERMS: 'BECAUSE OF OUR SINCERE FEELING OF
SOLIDARITY WITH THE MOTHER COUNTRY AND BECAUSE THE CAUSE THAT SPAIN DEFENDS
IS JUST, MY DELEGATION MOST RESPECTFULLY CONSIDERS THAT GREAT BRITAIN,
WHICH HAS FURNISHED SO MANY GENIAL EXAMPLES IN THE HISTORY OF NATIONS,
SHOULD PREPARE TO ENTER UPON BILATERAL TALKS WITH SPAIN, WHICH IS ALSO
A GENIAL COUNTRY, IN ORDER TO FIND A SOLUTION TO THE GIBRALTAR PROBLEM.'

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C. "IN VIEW OF THE FOREGOING, I REQUEST YOUR EXCELLENCY TO TRANSMIT TO THE
GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA THE WELL-INTENTIONED PROPOSALS
OF THE GOVERNMENT OF HONDURAS IN ORDER TO FIND A SATISFACTORY SOLUTION TO
THE PROBLEM OF THE AFOREMENTIONED SWAN ISLANDS, WHICH MATTER WAS RECENTLY
BROUGHT BEFORE THE UNITED NATIONS. [TWO WORDS GARBLED] MY GOVERNMENT
WILLING TO DROP THE MATTER THERE, TAKING IT UP THROUGH BILATERAL TALKS~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(OFFICIAL TRANSLATION)

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-2- TEGUCIGALPA 751, NOVEMBER 15

BETWEEN OUR GOVERNMENTS, BECAUSE IT CONSIDERS THIS TO BE A MORE SUITABLE METHOD IN VIEW OF THE TRADITIONAL FRIENDLY RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO PEOPLES AND GOVERNMENTS; THE REPLY OF YOUR EXCELLENCY'S GOVERNMENT IS AWAITED IN ORDER TO AGREE UPON THE DATE AND PLACE TO HOLD THE AFOREMENTIONED BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS."

JOVA
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NOTE: Foreign language text received 11/15/66 6:49.M
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